

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Toru TAKAYAMA et al.) ATTN: New Applications
Based On: JP 2002-320270)
Filed: October 31, 2002)
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)
AND MANUFACTURING)
METHOD THEREOF)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant submits herewith a Form PTO-1449 listing references known to Applicant and requests that these references be made of record in the above identified application. Copies of the references listed are submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a). Copies of U.S. patents and U.S. publications are not enclosed in accordance with the Notice published in the Official Gazette on August 5, 2003 entitled *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003*, which waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. publication.

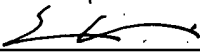
U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0067459 is in the family of Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2002-087844.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Nos. 10-125930; 10-125931; U.S. Patent Nos. 6,127,199; 6,372,608 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0146893 are in the family of Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-125929.

The Examiner's attention is directed to related U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,499 which has published as U.S. Publication No. 2001/0015256.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	
				0756-7215	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2002/0067459		Sugano	06/06/2002	
		6,127,199		Inoue et al.	10/03/2000	
		6,372,608		Shimoda et al.	04/16/2002	
		2002/0146893		Shimoda et al.	10/10/2002	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP	11-142878			05/28/1999		Abst.
		JP	10-125931			05/15/1998		Abst.
		JP	10-125930			05/15/1998		Abst.
		JP	10-125929			05/15/1998		Abst.
		JP	2002-278473			09/27/2002		Abst.
		JP	2002-087844			03/27/2002		Abst.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.